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Politics in Ges and Electricity.

The one man who can await with perfect tranquillity the fate of the so-called gas bills is the Mayor of this metropolis. He shaped his course in the first place according to his honest notions of public duty. He was attacked on the near side by the more radical and noisier wing of his own party, the Hearstites. On the off side, the management of the Cdell State machine devised for his interment the Stevens committee and the Stevens investigation. The Hearst plan of attack or rivalry has failed in the most dismal manner imaginable. The Republic in legislative campaign, conducted decorously as to the inquiry, and producing, thanks to Mr. HUGHES, a mass of corroborative information of the most illuminating quality, has proceeded on its harmonious and respectable course up to the incident of a bolted Senate caucus and a division of Republican forces on other lines than those suggested by partizen interest or even the welfare of the citizens. As for the Democrats in the Senate, they are at the present writing between the devil of temptation in the way of opportunity for personal graft and the deep sea of political destruction if they suffer their open palms to appear in the neighborhood of the smalls of their honorable backs.

Yesterday the Assembly passed all seven of the "gas" bills, including the State Commission bill, a purely political and mechanical attachment. If these measures, or that essential part of them which really benefits the local consumer and restricts too rapacious monopoly, get through the Senate to-day and acquire Governor HIGGINS's signature, the Mayor will have accomplished by a rather roundabout process and by the hands of his enemies that which he undertook to do. If the bills fail, he will have done all that a man in his place in the City Hall can do for his fellow citi-

zens in this respect. Thus the "hole," contemplated from all sides and at various angles, appears to be somewhat of an rininence, with Mayor McClellan adorning its summit, serene and with a good conscience.

A Warning.

Niagara pours its waters over the steeps for twenty-four hours every day in the year.

The men who want to steal Niagara and drain it dry for the fulness of their every hour and every minute until the Legislature adjourns.

The grab bills are not stone cold yet. The grabbers may be discouraged, but they do not yet despair.

Watch 'em and block 'em till the clock strikes safety!

Cipping Home Rule in New York.

The bill introduced in the Legislature on Tuesday by Senator ARMSTRONG of Rochester, taking the power of appointment of the Commissioner of Licenses out of the hands of the Mayor and lodging it with the State Commissioner of Labor, is vicious in principle and should never be allowed to become a law. Although the act as it now stands is of a general nature, applying to all cities of essentially local, since the municipalities have to pay all the expenses incurred under its provisions. In this city the cost of maintaining the department is approximately \$49,000 a year. To take the control of the department away from the Mayor would be a rank violation of the policy of home rule guaranteed by the Constitution of 1894.

Although the bill is obviously aimed at the present Commissioner of Licenses. FREDERICK L. C. KEATING, he seems to have committed no greater offense than that of compelling a Republican district leader to obey the law. For this he is to be punished by removal from office. As far as can be ascertained, this is the only motive that lies behind the bill, unless it be to give the Odell faction a little more patronage in this city.

The whole thing is a despicable piece of petty politics unworthy of the serious | ment which would have emasculated attention of the lawmakers at Albany.

Chicago's Misfortune.

In Chicago those prime public utilities from the control of the municipality by an organization of men which refuses to allow them to be used for the transaction of certain business except by its own members. Citizens who do not belong to this organization are forcibly rights have been withdrawn by the or-

municipality in possession. Chicago last month voted for immeis pushed ahead. Mayor DUNNE is competitors in England within their own

keeping his pledges.

platform on which Mayor DUNNE was standard of living. On the contrary, elected included no plank in favor of statistics indicate that by creating a the continuing municipal control of the demand for highly skilled artisans and of principles with which Judge DUNNE sought votes, a private organization would not now be in control of the thoroughfares. To preserve them for the peaceable and proper uses of all the public the too small police force of the the employment of special officers, the Sheriff of Cook county would have been called on for aid, the Governor of the State of Illinois would have been asked to order out the uniformed militia.

Chicago, reaching out far for city owned and operated street railways, neglected to specify city controlled highways. Orderly and safe streets she did not demand. Perhaps her business men are wishing that the issue of municipal control had been made wider this

The Ocean Yacht Race.

The race of yachts across the western ocean, which is to be started off Sandy Hook on May 16, may or may not be the beginning of a new era in yachting in this country, but it certainly is the outcome of the revival of a healthy sporting spirit. Those who have watched the progress of yacht racing under the influence of the America's Cup races have often shaken their heads sadly over the development of a type of vessel properly described as a mere racing machine. The principal purpose of this type seems to have been to defeat the racing rules. or to create a vacht which on a minimum of measured water line should provide a maximum of sailing length and sail carrying power. Huge overhangs accomplished this end, and for the rest lightness of construction and enormous sail plans made up the features of the racing craft.

These giant single stickers were obviously unfit to hold the sea in all weath-The purpose of that clause in the America's Cup conditions which stipulates that the challenger shall proceed to the point of contest on her own bottom has been defeated by permitting her to tow across the sea. The founders of the prize plainly intended that the competitors should be seagoing yachts. The refusal of both contestants in the last series to gooutside in a fresh wind showed that racing weather and cruising conditions had become incompatible.

If the matter had gone no further than this, perhaps there would have asylum to the unfortunate. been no ground for unfavorable comment. But the style of designing for the America's Cup has affected the models of all vachts. Cruisers in recent years have displayed overgrown overhangs, fragile frames, thin skins and sky scraping spars. Only yachts intended for ocean voyaging, such as the Endymion, have shown the sturdy proportions which were first outlined in the American pilot boat and afterward reproduced by GEORGE STEERS in the victorious and ever memorable America.

The new interest in ocean yacht racing, much of the credit for which is due to Commodore Top of the Atlantic Yacht Club and to Sir THOMAS LIPTON, has already affected the designs of outside pockets will be awake and active during | cruisers, and it will be a happy result if a new fleet of swift and powerful sea- to do it. going yachts shall grow up to renew the glories of the days when the Henrietta, L. SULLIVAN has received as a fighter, Fleetwing, Dauntless and others set the American yacht ensign snapping in triumph in the winds of foreign ports.

Britain's Atlempt to Check Immi-

gration. From the outcome of the debate on day in the House of Commons, we may adopt the measure. We have not yet | vide for his old age. seen the text of the bill, but it is said to be modeled on the American law relating to the same subject. That is to say, it aims to shut out from Great Britain not only insane, diseased, disabled or debilthe first and second class, in effect it is | itated immigrants, but all persons who, for any reason, seem likely not to be selfsupporting, and to become a public burden.

It was to be expected that the project CHAMBERLAIN, from his present protectionist point of view, and he disclosed the real purpose of the bill when he said that it was intended to keep out cheap labor. There is no doubt that the principal sufferers from the proposed exclusion would sought in Great Britain a refuge from the | wealth. religious and political disabilities to which they are subjected in the Czar's dominions, and who, arriving for the most part in a state of destitution, have crowded the sweat shops of East London, and are accused of lowering the rate of wages and the standard of living. Sir CHARLES DILKE advocated an amendthe measure, on the specious ground that the provisions of the bill were incompatible with the right of asylum which political and religious refugees the public highways have been wrested have long enjoyed in the United Kingdom. We note in passing that the amendment was rejected by a vote of

nearly four to one. It is, indeed, somewhat difficult to distinguish the motives which impel Jews to leave Russia from those which caused restrained from driving on what were the flight of the subjects of PHILIP II. once public thoroughfares. If they at- from the Netherlands in the sixteenth, tempt to use the streets they are assailed or the exodus of Huguenots from France by the organization's men, beaten and toward the close of the seventeenth cendriven from their work. Their former tury. Neither can it be disputed that although most of those Protestant fugiganization which has succeeded the tives brought nothing with them but their mechanical skill and their habits of industry and thrift, they proved of diate municipal control of the trans- great value to England. Indeed, British portation lines that traverse these same | woolen manufactures may be said to have streets, and Mayor EDWARD F. DUNNE | been imported from the Low Countries, took office promising to carry the wishes and British silk manufactures from of the voters into effect. Since his France. There is a material difference, election he has pledged himself to dili- however, between the earlier Nethergence in the prosecution of the trust lander and French immigrations on the that has been laid upon him. He has one hand, and the immigration of Polish summoned from Glasgow, to advise and Jews on the other. The former immiassist him, a street railway expert em- grants represented a superior civilizaployed by that city. Day and night tion, so far as the weaving arts were the great work of municipal ownership | concerned. As they had no, or very few,

highways of the city. Had such a plank | by stimulating the consumption of their been part of the public declaration products, they tended to raise the general level of remuneration for work, including even unskilled labor.

The state of civilization, on the other hand, which Jewish immigrants from Russia represent is considerably lower than that which prevails in Great Britain. city would have been strengthened by The newcomers are conversant only with the lower grades of skilled labor, and as they are also accustomed to bear greater privations, the inevitable consequence of their fierce competition is to depress the rate of wages in certain industries. It is also to be borne in mind that the volume of the recent immigration from Poland and Russia into Great Britain is incomparably greater than was that of the Protestant Netherlanders and of the Huguenots two and three centuries ago. It follows that the alien element is much more slowly assimilated.

> Another reason for the adoption of good deal of weight with the House of ter Balfour. He pointed out that a very large proportion of the Polish and Russian Jews who immigrate to the United States come first to Great Britain, where they take passage in the great transatlantic liners. Great Britain was not inconvenienced by being thus used as a way station in former times, when the immigration laws of the United States were non-existent or extremely lax; but now. when the United States exclusion laws have been made relatively rigorous, not only are large numbers of aliens who emigrate to America rejected on their arrival there, but many more are at the British ports of departure. These rejected ones remain in Great Britain, which thus, as Mr. BALFOUR said, acts as a sort of sieve, which lets the fit through to America, but retains the un-It is not surprising that the British Parliament should fail to relish the employment of their country as a sieve.

> After all is said, however, it remains a melancholy truth that many an inhabitant of the so-called Jewish Pale, who possesses no capital and depends for subsistence on the work of his hands, will feel himself cut off from the last hope of escape from his Russian oppressor when he learns that the checks on immigration applied in the United States are about to be reproduced in England, which for so many years has offered an

Pugilism as a Business.

Out of the Middle West comes the announcement that Prof. James J. JEF-FRIES, the unchallenged champion heavyweight pugilist of the world, intends to quit the squared circle and the stage to go into business in California. He is moved to do this by family enlism does not pay." JEFFRIES has not a rival in pugilism to-day, and his fame as a fighter has made his career on the prize fighters who have not been given over to dissipations widely known and publicly acknowledged. If any man could make the prize ring lead to wealth the present champion should be able

No one knows how much money JOHN actor and saloon keeper during the forty-seven years of his life. Every one knows that he has spent it all and is a poor man to-day. Had he husbanded his receipts he might have had a competence; had he attended strictly to his various liquor store enterprises he the Aliens bill, which took place on Tues- might have become wealthy. Free with his cash as with his strength, he never take for granted that Parliament will saved, and has no nest egg now to pro-

The same is true of most of the boxers of all times. Many men who won fame in the ring prospered afterward in businesses of various kinds not connected with the sport. - Some turned gamblers, some established gymnasiums, some opened saloons. None has found it highly profitable to follow the game in which he made his first start. Those who have done so usually ended as inwould be supported by Mr. Joseph structors, with fair, but by no means large, incomes.

Champion JEFFRIES may reap a fortune in California. He would probably never gain one on the lines he is following now. Pugilism is, as a business, one to be avoided by the young man anxbe Polish and Russian Jews, who have lous to amass great, or even moderate,

What Does It Mean?

Section two of the Agnew bill for the establishment of a State Water Commission provides that no municipal corporation or other civil division of the State shall have power to acquire any new sources of water supply until its plans have been approved by the commission established by the act.

No such prohibition is laid upon private corporations which now possess power to acquire water supply sources by condemnation, or to which such

power may be given in the future. Why are not all corporations, public and private, to be put upon the same plane before this commission?

In the chaos that reigns at Albany this discrimination may be due to an oversight. But it may also be due to more Ramapo.

One of the by-products of "municipal ownership" has come to those hardy mariners of many storms and squalls the deckhands of the Staten Island ferryboats The city is about to undertake the operation of the ancient ferry connecting Richmond borough with Manhattan. It is building boats and providing terminals. There is now in the service of the ferry company a force of deckhands who will constitute under municipal ownership a sort of coast guard, if confirmed in their positions by the law providing that they shall be en-

rolled without civil service formalities. These deckhands have no certain tenure at present. They are hired as needed and . paid according to the services which they render, these services being of a perfunctory character with none of the perils of deep sea navigation and life before the mast. Their chief duty is to put in position the gang eeping his pledges.

It is a misfortune for Chicago that the have lowered the rate of wages or the hold them to the builthead. They also when the data well.

notify teamsters to turn to the right. They are never called upon to notify passengers, even the most mischievous or convivial, not

to rock the boat. But municipal ownership on the approved Socialist plan will put an end to the precarlous tenure of these deckhands. They are to be confirmed in their jobs; to wear uniforms; to be exempt from removal, except under charges and after a hearing; to have brass buttons on their coats and gold lace on their sleeves, and perhaps to be sure of a pension on their retirement

from service on the Staten Island boats. All this is great luck for the deckhands and swabbers of the Staten Island ferry fleet. What corresponding benefits it will bring to hart or workers who do the same kind of work on other ferryboats and on harbor craft not operated by the city is not yet apparent.

The audience that gathered in the Metropolitan Opera House on Tuesday afternoon to say good-by to Helena Modjeska was fortunate enough to see the distinguished actress in two 16'es that show her as she was in the plenitude of her powers. Time has been impotent to robher art of its magic the measure which apparently had a when she enacts Lady Macbeth or Mary Stuart. Her gait is as queenly, her bearing Commons was advanced by Prime Minis- as distinguished and her acting as free from obvious deliberation and affectation as it ever was.

What a possession the memory of that performance must forever be to those who for the first time witnessed her in SHAKE-SPEARE'S trakedy, and then in the episodes of "Mary Stuart." No artist could wish to leave in the minds of her admirers a lovelier monument than Mme. Modjeska built before their eyes at her last appearance in this city.

Our late esteemed contemporary the St. Paul Globe kept its promise and went out of business on Sunday last. The terminal number of the Globe is now before us. with its full exhibit of the news of the day, turned back by the shipping companies gathered with enterprise and displayed with journalistic judgment, its editorial page crowded with able and interesting mment on a variety of topics, including the theme "There'll Be No To-morrow," and its cheerful "Good-by" at the bottom of the last column. While not particularly inclined to sentimental reflection over events of this sort. THE SUN does not mind saving that it recalls no case in which a departure was more creditably conducted and a professional duty more bravely performed up to the last moment of breathing.

THE JEWS OF NEW YORK Their Remarkable Progress, Its Causes

and its Possible Result. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In this orning's SUN, in an editorial article headed "A Coming Jewish Celebration," I find this sentence: "The progress of the Jews in America, and more especially in New York, in every field of activity, is relatively greater than that of any other race.

That sentence suggests again a questio that has often occurred to me, namely, What will be the outcome of it all?

bers on every hand; not in the Chetto alone by any sort of menns, but everywhere, and n every field of life. And, poor and rich like, they all have, to an intense degree the conquering characteristics of tration and application. Jewish children in the schools apply themselves wonderfully, treaties, and also by the fact that "pugi- and acquire knowledge: and Jewish men almost without exception, follow their severa callings or professions, whatever these ma; be, low or high, with unfailing energy devotion. They equip themselves for their stage profitable. He is one of the few | work, they work hard and they keep at it and there could be but one result following and there could be but one result following such preparation and labor. It is undoubtedly true that, to quote again the sentence from the editorial, "the progress of the Jews in America, and more especially in New York, in every field of activity, is relatively greater than that of any other race."

And now I ask again the question, What will be the outcome of it all? And I ask this question of course wholly without feeling or prejudice, but purely in a scientific mood. Mathematically, and in accordance with

or prejudice, but purely in a scientific mood.

Mathematically, and in accordance with the law of the survival of the fittest, the time must come when by virtue of their cualities the Jews will deminate in New York. Will that time come?

I find at intervals in The Sun editorial articles of most fascinating interest concerning New York and its people and its material and social development. I should be glad if I could find an answer to the question which I have here propounded.

New York, May 1.

Gen. Scott's Hasty Plate of Sonp. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN -SF: A correspondent writing to THE SUN quotes one of Dr. Depew's speeches in which the Senator said that Gen. Scott's campaign for President was "exceedingly prom-ising" until the "hasty plate of soup" allusion

"laughed him out of the camp."

The "hasty plate of soup" letter was written in 1866 to Secretary of War Marcy, and was an exceedingly informal note. It was published immediately by the Administration and was much

laughed at by some political papers.

Its importance came from the notion that Gen. Scott, in another communication to the Secretary expressed great feeling because he said he was being "attacked in the rear" by the Administra-tion and feared still more attacks when he went to Mexico. Many persons thought his correspond showed some testiness and too much personal Scott, Clay and Webster were the three promine

Whig candidates for President. Scott's friends thought the Administration wished to minimize the glory he was sure to get after he had eququered Mexico and he was treated to a court o inquiry in its capital.

Anyway. Taylor was nominated and elected in 1848 and the matter was of little or no influence i

NEW YORK, May 2. Mansfield Davies.

What Makes Life Tolerabi: for a Traveling

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: 1 am a traveling man, and just want to tell you how I enjoy THE SUN. It is the only paper in the United State that I really enjoy. Am pleased to notice how some very popular papers throughout the United States copy Sun articles so copiously. When I see a man on the train or in a hotel reading a SUN I am confident he is a thinker of intelligence

Your reporters are surely humorists, and your editorials are incomparable. I have carefully otteed people, and I never find a Sun style of man reading the yellow literature.

One thing that makes life bearable to me after twenty years of traveling is the companionship of THE SUN. It is just as good, even if I can't

always get it until it is a number of days old. matter how old. It is never stale, C. B. DUNCAN. CLEVELAND, Ohlo, May 2. First Steps in Graftdom. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: May first

is owned by minors and managed by agents was given to understand by the agent's assistant that for a "V" be could "fix it" so that the month's rent could be omitted. When asked if it was a usual practise he was informed, "Sure, it's done oil over town." Truly, it's cheaper to be a grafter than to hay rent. In Grina GH.

NEW YORK, May 2. Hamlet Revised by Boston. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIF: Apropos of Bernard Shaw's "appreciation" of Shakespeare, is it not likely to give still another reading to the uch disputed or discussed line (Act II., Sc. 2 wherein Hamlef declares his mental capacity "when the wind is southerly," namely, "I can tell a hoat

Through Tinkertown to Squintville. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN -Sir: Last week on a short trip to Alfred, N. Y., I drove through Tinkertown, and on the surrounding hills I was told close one eye and with the other squint toward The place thus viewed is known as Squintville.

from a Eern. Shaw ?

BOSTON, May 2.

PLMIRA, N. Y., MAY 1. A DAUX SUNNER. From the Houston Past.

DO DIRECTORS DIRECT?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: It should not be, in a country where the greater part of all business transacted is corporation business, that there is conflict or disagreement between the law of the land—whether statute law or Judge made law or common law- and the actual transaction of such corporate HIRITI CER.

one constantly hears on every side, from those actively engaged in incorporated business, that it is practically impossible efficiently and successfully to conduct such business in literal and perfect compliance with

the laws enacted to govern it.
The management of a private or a partnership business may be different from the prosecution of a business-like banking, or in-surance, or production, or transportationunder a charter of incorporation given by the State, which confers power on certain officials to do certain things in a certain way.

The claim is that the growth of the proserity of the country will be arrested, its energies thwarted, and the safety of the values of its industries endangered if always and under every condition the letter of the law is to be implicitly obeyed. agers, insurance managers and managers of production and transportation must, it is said, be permitted to decide when and to what extent their discretion can by them-selves be substituted for the letter of the law, which in a crisis may be killing for every

It is not necessary to give examples of the kind of argument and pleading set up by the energetic captains of industries, to justify their contention in behalf of disregard, in stress, of the laws under which, and under which alone, the State has declared a business enterprise can be legally carried on. It is impossible to think of a corporation,

created by the State, without specification

by the State of directors or trustees who are

to conduct its business, the methods by which they are to be chosen, the powers they are to exercise and the formalities of such exercise.

It is impossible to think of a director of trustee of a corporation without look-ing upon him as one who has accepted a personal trust from the State and the owners of the property invested in the corpor ation, and yet one might infer from much of what one sees and hears nowadays that the only duty of such trustees is to choose executive officers and agents, and then throw down the reins, leaving the team of subordi nates to go as it pleases. The State delegates its power to directors of the corporation; they delegate their power to officers they select, and those officers delegate it again the agents they appoint or recommend Shareowners in the corporations are power-less because they have exhausted their rights

when they have chosen the directors who, under the system of proxy voting, can easily perpetuate their control, unless there shall be such a widespread dissatisfaction as to induce shareowners not to sell out but to fight for a change of management such as seems to be in progress at 120 Broadway in this city. One hears everywhere of President r Vice-President that, or an executive com-

mittee doing so and so, but little is heard of what the directors or trustees do. In Milwaukee, for example, there is activity y the directors, but it began after the larceny. It seems to have been imperfectly exercised for prevention

In the New York Equitable company there was little supervision and direction by the large and respectable body of trustees. It has not yet been shown, in the pending railway rate investigation, that the railway directors have been vigilant in studying, and really dominating, the rates, rebates and dis-

riminations. Are the laws at fault? NEW YORK, May 3.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Since writing the letter that appeared in THE SUN of this morning on the situation in the Middle Fast, I have received a communication from Peshawar in India written shortly before the British mission left Kabul on its return from Afghanistan. It was known at Peshawar or some time before the mission started or its return that it had been fruitless, and the attitude of the Ameer was described as particularly determined in every way where his independence seemed to be encroached upon. That of the people was said to be deflant. but for Pathans singularly restrained, while the formalities of hospitality and politeness were most carefully observed in order to avoid the slightest appearance of wishing should the British Government desire to Impose its demands on the Afghans there were no other means than by coercion.

In Arabia the last news points to a serious change in affairs. The surrender of Sanaa makes the Yemen rebels masters of the situaion unless the Sultan can afford to send a large force of Anatolian troops to retrieve the disaster; and should Menakha, about half way between Sanaa and Hodeida, which hey are now besieging, fall, there will be an end for the time being to Turkish authority throughout Yemen. The Syrian Arab troops are worthless for fighting under almost any conditions, but especially against such men as those who have just defeated them at

as those who have just defeated them at Sansa.

Not less serious for the Sultan than this misadventure in southwestern Arabia is the incident at Koweit on the Persian Gulf in the opposite direction. The landing of British marines, sailors and field guns, and the forcible carrying off as a hostage of the son of the Sheik of Koweit by them, point to some decided change in the alleaed friendly relations between him and the British. What the cause is there are no immediate means of knowing, but the probability is that potent arguments have been employed to draw him away from his leanings toward Great Hritain, and that he is feeling the same disquietude noted in other parts of the Mussulman world, particularly Afshanistan and Persia. In the latter country the political conditions are much disturbed, and conflicting reports prevail as to the movements of the Shah, who, it is now said, may abendon his previous intention of going on a pilarimage to Meehed, and make a journey to St. Petersburg instead.

Altogether, the situation is such that it

stead.

Altogether, the situation is such that it cannot be long before some definite effect will appear out of the present confusion in those regions. European politics as regards Asia Minor and Turkish afairs being deeply interested in any solution that may be produced, and Russia having a vital interest in the turn of events in Parsia.

New York, May 3.

From the Arizona Republican. The Sheriff of Santa Cruz county, Ariz., has received the following letter from one of his con-

"DEAR SIR: I thought I would write you a few lines to ask you a few words and I don't want to do anything until I hear from you. My stepfather is chussing (probably chasing or cussing) my mother all the time and she don't want him around here any more and she wants him to leave but he won't go. He is just chussing her all the time and once he was going to hit her with a rock but I made him lay it down. She is washing all the time and trying to do right with him and I am going to stop I am asking you what I will do and be sure and tell me what if I would shut (shoot) him. I think I would be in the right because I don't care for him and if I do kill him I will show you that I graft has come and many other petty forms of this lucrative practise. Its novelty is beautiful. A tenant who was vacating an apartment which was right. Well, I will close for this time sure and write and tell me what to d

by. Yours truly, Mr. Speckboetel of Needesha. From the Emporia Gazette.
Billy Speckboetel came up from Neodenha last

TOM PARKER.

Ris Way. First Caddy-How does he address the ball! second Caddy To de dead letter office

The Case of Jim . Maw's callin' from the milkhouse, Callin' stern: "Jim, yer lazy good for nuthin', Come an' chuca.

Paw's callin' from the compatch. Callin' loud: "James, yer huikin", stupid leafer, Ti ne yer plowed."

Nature's callin' from the trout brook, Califn' waish:
"Son, yer poor tired lazy faller,
Come and fish."

Stranger, if we just swapped places. Which of all the three a callin' Would y: w hear?

Does the Company Owe His Estate \$500,-

000, or Is the Estate Debtor? William P. Homans, as administrator of the estate of the late Harry S. Homans, is suing the New York Life Insurance Company for more than \$500,000, alleged to be due the estate on renewal commissions under a contract made with Harry S. Homans in 1874. In substance, the defense of the insurance company is that there is an offset of more than \$830,000, due the company from Homans when he died in Paris in 1880.

The case was up before Justice O'Gorman in the Supreme Court yesterday morning on a motion for a bill of particulars demanded by Cary & Robinson of counsel for Hamans, administrator. The insurance company introduced an affidavit setting forth proceedings in a French court in an accounting with the state of Homans. Counsel for Homans, administrator, asked that this French affidavit be eliminated as irrelevant. Justice O'Gorman reserved de-

Harry S. Homans in 1874 was appointed general director of all the New York Life Insurance Company's European agencies, and in 1880 he made a contract with the company under which he was to receive certain commissions and a certain stipu-lated amount for renewal commissions. He died intestate nine years later, and the

died intestate nine years later, and the \$500,000 and more is alleged to be due on renewal commissions.

"The question at issue," said Sanford Robinson, counsel for the Homans estate, yesterday, "is on the responsibility of Homans for expenses of conducting the company's business in Europe. Under the terms of the contract the company was to beautiful to the company was to beautiful the company was to be at the company was the company was to the contract the company was to bear these expenses up to a certain fixed amount. Now, as we maintain, the company charges all the expenses against Homans. When we were met with the answer that Homans, when he died, was actually in debt to the when he died, was actually in debt to the insurance company in the sum of over \$830,-000, we naturally wanted to know just what the items were. So we asked for a bill of particulars. We know nothing of the proceedings of the French court. They have no bearing whatsoever upon the case. The suit in France was brought by Mrs. Homans and was defended by the Homans children. The court gave Mrs. Homans her share in the estate, but held that she had no interest in the renewal commissions, and it is on the in the renewal commissions, and it is on the renewal commissions that our present claim against the insurance company is

CITY NEEDS SKILLED FERRYMEN And Can't Get Them Without a Special

Civil Service Law. Mayor McClellan gave a hearing yesterday on the bill passed by the Legislature permitting the Civil Service Commission to put in the preferred class the men now employed on the Staten Island ferry when the city begins the operation of the ferry.

Representatives of the Chamber of Commerce, the Board of Trade and several other civic and marine organizations informed the Mayor that it was essential for the safety of the ferry that the pilots and other employees who have been running the ferry, many of them for over a score of years, should be retained. But as the law now stands they would have to pass a competitive civil service examination and come out at the top before the city could hire

Mayor McClellan intimated that some of the lawyers who spoke at the hearing would prepare a brief showing that the Civil Service Commission had no power except by means of the bill before him to place the men in the preferred class, and he would e men in the preferred class, and he would approve the measure.

WHY DO PRISONERS GO FREE! Mr. McAdoo Calls for Reports on Cases

Thrown Out in Police Courts. This general order will be sent to-day by Police Commissioner McAdoo to all police inspectors and captains:

In cases before courts of the first instance involving infractions of the Penal Code with reference to poolrooms, disorderly houses, so liciting by women and tenement house of fenses, where the defendants are not hele fenses, where the defendants are not hem or have been acquitted, and where you deen the case of importance to the department and the administraton of the law, send a report to this office of the evidence submitted on behalf of the people, the decision of the Magistrate have made affecting the case or the conduct

"I have done this." explained Mr. McAdoo because I want to know just what has taken place in the police courts when our prisoners are discharged. There has been much said of the failure of the police to get good cases; I want to know if it is all the fault of the

"Acting Captain Eggers, who has made so many raids of late, has been sending in such reports. I have a big stack of them.

FIGHTS TAX SUCCESSFULLY.

The Metropolitan Need Not Pay on Ten Million Assessment of 1897. Supreme Court Justice Bischoff decided vesterday that the Metropolitan Street Railway Company need not pay the tax on the assessment of \$10,134,950, which appears against it on the tax rolls for the year 1897. The basis of the decision is that an investigation of the company's assets and liabilities for that year shows that the latter were considerably in excess of the former, and that there remained

nothing to tax.

The Tax Commissioners contended that the value of the leases held by the road should be incorporated into the assets and that the bonds of subordinate comfound that there was nothing on which to base a valuation of the leases, and that even allowing that some of the bonds were not proper liabilities, enough of them were to wipe out any basis for an assessment.

SEWER INSPECTOR BOUNCED. Accused of Ailowing Contractors to Override the Specifications.

President Martin W. Littleton of the Borough of Brooklyn has summarily dismissed Daniel J. McCauley, inspector of sewer construction. McCauley was the supervisor of the construction of a sewer in Eighty-sixth street, between First and Second avenues, and Mr. Littleton after an nvestigation discovered that the work had been done in violation of the specifications of the contract and that a fraudulant bill of \$3.092.59 for concrete work had been paid. It was shown that the merest pretense had been made in laying a concrete founda-tion, although the contract called for it. Mr. Littleton also severely rebuked the engineer in charge of the work and has given the contractor two days to begin the workof reconstruction.

Officers of Colonial Wars Society. The Society of Colonial Wars held in the

City Hall yesterday its triennial election Those elected were: Governorgeneral, Frederic De Peyster; vice-govgeneral, Frederic De Peyster; vice-governor-gereral, Howland Pell; secretarygeneral, Samuel V. Hoffman, and deputy,
G. Van Amringe, all of New York; treasurer-general, W. Macpherson, Pennsylvania; register-general, George N. Mackenzie of Maryland; historian-general, Thomas
Page Grant, Kentucky; chaplain-general,
Bishop Lawrence of Massachusetts; surgeon-general, Dr. J. G. Mumford, Massachusette, and chancellor-general, Prof.
T. S. Woolsey, Connecticut.

Twenty-fifth Carnegie Library. Plans have been filed for another new

free library of the Carnegie endowment chain, being the twenty-fifth of these buildings designed for New York. It is to be erected at 121 to 127 East Fifty-eighth street. It is to be a four story fireproof edifice, fronting 60% feet and 65 feet deep with a 25 feet extension, and having a fa sde of faced brick, with trimmings of graph and brasstone. grapie and Uneste

HOMANS SUIT AGAINST N. Y. LIFE ECLECTIC M. D.'S GRADUATED. Degrees for New Doctors Awarded at Carnegie Lyceum.

The forty-fourth commencement of the Eclectic Medical College of the City of New York was held last night at Carnegie Lyceum, Fifty-seventh street and Seventh avenue. Among those on the stage besides the faculty were Col. N. S. Dike, Thomas F. Byrne, Warren S. Burt, James Rascovar, Alfred H. Curtis, Dr. Pitts Edwin Howes of Boston, Dr. F. W. Abbott of Taunton, Mass.; Dr. A. W. Forbush of Boston and Dr. A. R. Tiel, secretary of the State Board of Examiners. The exercises were as fol-

Prayer by the Rev. Dr. Potter; report of the faculty by the dean, who congratulated the trustees and alumni upon the showing that the students had made before the State board, and who also announced several valuable donations; addresses by the Rev. Dr. Joseph Rushton, conferring of the degrees by W. R. Spooner, LL. D., president of the board of trustees, and the benediction by the Rev. Dr. Potter. The dinner to the graduating class was held at the Hotel Astor, where covers we re-set for 150. set for 150

CONCESSIONS AT ELLIS ISLAND. Bidders for the Feeding Contract and Money Exchange Privilege.

WASHINGTON, May 3 .- The value of the concessions at Ellis Island was attested to-day when bids were opened by Commissioner of Immigration Sargent for the privilege of feeding the immigrants and conducting the money exchange. Sixteen bids were received for each concession, and most of the bidders had representatives here. There has never been such competition for these contracts. The bids for the feeding privilege averaged a few cents less per day than the present concessionaires, Hudgins & Dumas, are permitted to charge. Commissioner Sargent left to-day for New Orleans, and the contracts will not be let until his return, next week.

The bidders for the feeding contract were: Henry Balfe, John Blau, Emil Schwah. Rehr & Brodt, Hortz & Newburg, Henry Molthan, Jr., Nugent & Toffey, William Kaiser & Co., Hudgins & Dumas, Moore-Van Holland Company, R. H. Effers, Hill & Roach, Joe Kray, Frankel & Melville and L. Mass. Kray and Frankel & Melville were disqualified, as they had not enclosed cer-tified checks on a national bank with their

bids.

The bidders for the money exchange privilege were: M. M. Dolphin, Italian-American Trust Company, E. Kiss, Boulogne: Hartfield & Co., C. B. Richard & Co., American Express Company, Henry Clews & Co., D. C. Goodman, William Machol, F. H. Ainsworth, C. Schumacher & Co., C. Conti, Post & Flagg, Peter McDonald, L. W. Simmons and E. J. Devitt.

FLAGS FOR POLICE PARADE. Traffic Squad Colors, Blue and Yellew -Rush of Spectators Looked For.

Two silk flags for the two squads of the raffic squad were received yesterday by Police Commissioner McAdoo, They will be carried in the police parade on Saturday.

They are of blue and orange silk. "They won't be carried in the St. Patrick's day parade, will they?" the Commissioner was asked.

was asked.

"Hum, ah!" replied Mr. McAdoo. "Well, you see, that isn't orange—that is more yellow—yes, it's a bright yellow."

Mr. McAdoo expects a great number of visitors for the parade. Already the depend for tickers for surpasses the number. mand for tickets far surpasses the number seats on the two reviewing stands. It is expected that the Governor and Mayor will review the policemen

WOMEN TOAST IN RIME. Jingles Good and Bad and the Eclectic

Club's Luncheon. toast we would give to the luncheon committee, hose arduous labors incide us to pity. eigr duties are fraught with constant contention volving vexed questions too numerous to mention.

indeed, we may say their troubles begin With sours sadly thick and filet so talin, With joysters too young and birds tragically old, With jors quite warm and coffee stone cold,

This toast on "Our luncheon and reception committee," read by Mrs. Richard Hutchinson at the annual luncheon given by Eclectic Club in Delmonico's yesterday afternoon, was one of many done in verse. For those invited to give toasts were told that they

must all rime and jingle.

Mrs. Stearns, after being introduced in rime by the club president, Mrs. Doré Lyon, gave a toast to "Our President," while the five hundred guests applauded heartily. Part of it follows:

Who stands with dignity divine And raps the gavel when it's time And oft addresses us in rime, Our President.

And who presents each honored guest in flowery speech and happy jest And make's us feel immensely blest, Our President. And who in reputation fair With Cessar's wife can e'en compare Unsulledt which alas is rare, Our President,

Whose diplomatic perspicacity Discerns the great and small capacity, Commands both without veracity, Our President.

And so to her let's give a toast Health, wealth and of good friends a host, A loyal Club to be her boast Our Ficeldent. The tables were elaborately decorated th carnations, the club flower, but even ne brilliant colors of the flowers pale eside the costumes and jewels worn by the women. Eelectic more than bore out e women. Eclectic more than bore out a reputation for being "the best dressed ub in the city."

SCHELLING-DRAPER.

Paderewski Unable to Attend the Wedding of His Pupil. Miss Lucie How Draper and Ernest Schelling of Switzerland had a home wedding yesterday at the residence of the bride's

nother, Mrs. William P. Draper, 604 Fifth avenue. The dev. Newton Perkins, secretary of the Church Building Fund, performed the ceremony at 12:30 o'clock, and the bride was given away by her mother, Mrs. Draper. There were no bridesmaids, and the brideas best man. After the ceremony a bridal breakfast was served. The guests included Prof. and Mrs. Schelling and Mrs. Erwin of Philadelphia, Mme. Paderewski, Mr. and

Philadelphia, Mme. Paderewski, Mr. and Mrs. Henry S. Dimock, the Rev. and Mrs. Perkins, Mr. and Mrs. John D. Archbold, Mrs. Isaac How, Miss Boatrice How, Mr and Mrs. Henry Bliss. Miss Midred Barnes, Mr. and Mrs. William P. Draper, Jr., and the Messrs. Bates of Boston.

Mr. and Mrs. Schelling will spend the summer at Bar Harbor, where the Drapers have had a cottage for many years. Afterward they will probably make a short trip to Europe.

Mr. Schelling is the son of Prof. Felix Schelling of Philadelphia, and his brother is professor of English literature at the University of Pennsylvania. He has made several tours in Europe, and last season played in Brazil. He is court planist to the Duke of Mecklenburg-Schwerin and has spent much time at the dugal residence of Willigrad. Cables were received congratulating the newly married couple from the Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Schwerin and Alma-Tadema of London.

Watts-Holmes.

Miss Sara Holmes and George B. Watts were married yesterday afternoon in the Church of the Heavenly Rest, Fifth avenue and Forty-fifth street. The Rev. Dr. D. Parker Morgan performed the ceremony at 4 o'clock. The bride was given away by her mother, Mrs. Langford F. Holmes. She was attended by the Misses Faith Moore and Sabina Wood Watts of this city, Mabel Dick of Chicago and Hattie Flynt of Springfield, Mass., as bridesmajds.

Preston Watson assisted Mr. Watta as best man and Lieut. Grmando Mola of Italy, brother-in-law of the bride: Edward Sanford, Grenville B. Winthrop, Ansel Phelps. Charles Van Bensselaer and Edward Sherwood were ushers. After the church ceremony the bride's mother, Mrs. Holmes of 37 West Forty-fifth street, gave a reception. The bride was given away by her mother